

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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- (21) Application No. 4860/75 (22) Filed 5 Feb. 1975
 (61) Patent of Addition to No. 1 365 240 dated 19 June 1973
 (44) Complete Specification published 15 Sept. 1976
 (51) INT CL² B65D 27/30
 (52) Index at acceptance B8K 2K1 2K3 FD
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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO BAGS FOR CONTAINING BANK NOTES

(71) We, DECOFLEX LIMITED, a British Company of 75—79 Southwark Street, London, S.E.1, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a bag for containing bank notes.

In the specification of our British patent No. 1365240 we described and claimed a bag for containing bank notes in which the bag was made of synthetic plastics material and was provided with marginal areas of printing at opposite ends thereof respectively so that when the bag was sealed at the opposite ends adjacent to and between the marginal areas of printing, the bag cannot be opened and notes extracted and the bag then resealed without the attempt to tamper with the bag being made apparent.

It has been found that when such a bag is filled, air is trapped inside the bag making the sealing operation difficult to carry out because as the bag is sealed it is inflated by the trapped air. Also, air trapped within a sealed bag has a further disadvantage in that it causes unnecessary strain on the seals.

An object of the present invention is to provide an improved bag.

According to the present invention there is provided a bag for containing bank notes, the bag being of synthetic plastics material and having marginal areas of printing at opposite ends thereof respectively and the material being perforated so that when the bag is sealed at the opposite ends adjacent to and between the marginal areas of printing, air contained within the bag can escape to atmosphere through the perforations.

An example of a bag for containing bank notes according to the present invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the bag which is in an open condition prior to the

insertion of bank notes, and

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the bag containing bank notes and which has been sealed to enclose the notes.

The bag, generally designated (1), is cut, for example, from 200 gauge transparent seamless polyethylene tubing which has been pre-printed at (2) with the name of the bank which will use the bag, at (3) with the number and denomination of notes which are to be inserted into the bag and at (4) and (5) with marginal areas of printing.

The marginal areas of printing consist of the name of the bank printed repeatedly in lines in close juxtaposition. This type of close printing is generally known as micro-security printing. The tube may be provided with gussets (6) and (7). The bag is heat sealed at (8) closely adjacent to the marginal area of printing (4) at an end of the bag and between the marginal area of printing (4) and the marginal area of printing (5) at the opposite end of the bag, which remains open. An adhesive label (9) is irremovably attached to the transparent material before the material is cut into bag lengths. Alternatively the label (9) may be printed on the bag in facsimile form with an ink which is receptive to writing and which is difficult to remove.

Three rows of pin holes (10) are provided in the bag the holes being spaced approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart in the rows and the rows extending transversely of the bag and being spaced approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ " from one another and which together form a transverse band adjacent to the heat seal (8) i.e. distant from the open end of the bag. The pin holes (10) are arranged so that the holes in the centre row are offset in relation to those of the other two rows and all of the pin holes extend through both the front panel, bearing the label (9), and the back panel of the bag.

In operation, a cashier at a bank opens the bag (1) by pulling apart the walls of the bag at the open end so that the bag is in the condition shown in Fig. (1). Bank notes are

then inserted into the bag and the cashier writes his signature on the label (9) together with other information as to the contents of the bag, if necessary. Alternatively information may be printed on the label (9).

The open end of the bag is then closed and is inserted into apparatus for heat sealing the open end thereby providing a seal (11) located closely adjacent to the marginal area of printing (5) at that end of the bag and between the two marginal areas of printing (4) and (5).

The sealing apparatus may be arranged to print and/or emboss the bag with the branch number of the bank.

It will be appreciated that the marginal areas of printing (4) and (5) at each end of the bag (1) discourage extracting of notes from the bag by opening and resealing of the bag because this cannot be done without the attempt to tamper with the bag being made apparent. For example, if the bag were opened by cutting through the seal at one end and the bag then resealed after notes have been extracted therefrom, there would either be no marginal area of printing at one end of the resealed bag, or the micro-security printing of the marginal area of printing resealed to the bag would be wholly or partly mutilated, due to its close proximity to the seal, by the heat used to re-seal the bag. In either event, it would be apparent that the bag had been tampered with.

Furthermore, it will also be appreciated that, since the synthetic plastics material forming the bag is perforated with the pin holes (10), air trapped within the bag when notes are inserted therein can escape which not only allows the filled bag to be heat sealed at (11) more easily but also allows the

filled bag to be stacked in a flat condition and introduces more relaxed seals at (8) and (11).

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A bag for containing bank notes, the bag being of synthetic plastics material and having marginal areas of printing at opposite ends thereof respectively and the material being perforated so that when the bag is sealed at the opposite ends adjacent to and between the marginal areas of printing, air contained within the bag can escape to atmosphere through the perforations.

2. A bag according to claim 1 wherein the material of the bag is perforated by pin holes.

3. A bag according to claim 2 wherein the pin holes are arranged in rows extending transversely of the bag.

4. A bag according to claim 3 wherein the rows of pin holes together form a band adjacent to one of the seals.

5. A bag according to claim 3 or claim 4 wherein each row of pin holes is offset in relation the or each adjacent row or rows.

6. A bag according to any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein the pin holes extend through both a front panel and a back panel of the bag.

7. A bag containing bank notes arranged, constructed and adapted to operate substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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